



GSE BeLux Conference Put AI to Work on IBM Z

The “Put AI to Work on IBM Z” conference brings together leading experts, practitioners, and innovators to demonstrate how artificial intelligence is no longer theoretical on the mainframe. It is operational, embedded, and delivering measurable value today.

Agenda

12 - 13h

Welcome & Lunch

13.15 - 14.15h

Transactional AI on IBM Z

Khadija Souissi, Principal Solution Architect - AI on IBM Z and LinuxONE, Distinguished Technical Specialist Böblingen, Germany

14.30 - 15.30h

AI-Driven Observability and Automation

Mustapha Gulkara, IBM, Brand Technical Specialist - IBM Z, Nederland

Kristof Stroobants, IBM IT Specialist (and bit of IT Architect & IT Consultant all-rounder), Belgium

Marc De Groote, Managing Partner Asist, Belgium

15.30 - 16h

Coffee break

16 - 17h

Agentic AI for z/OS Development

Flemming Petersen, Technical Sales Professional IBM Z Software. In charge of helping customers modernize IBM Z applications, tools and enterprise development practices, Copenhagen, Denmark

17.15 - 17.30h

GSE BeLux Workgroups 2.0 – Your Community, Your Input

René De Vleeschauwer, Managing Partner IKAN Development, Belgium

17.30 - 19h

Get together and drink

∨ READ MORE

Join us at



October 13, 2026



The Crescent / De Mot
Motstraat 30
2800 Mechelen

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<https://tinyurl.com/yrvbr2wa>

Conference Summary

Put AI to Work on IBM Z

The “Put AI to Work on IBM Z” conference brings together leading experts, practitioners, and innovators to demonstrate how artificial intelligence is no longer theoretical on the mainframe—it is operational, embedded, and delivering measurable value today.

Centered around the enduring strengths of the IBM Z platform—security, scalability, and transactional integrity—this event highlights how AI is being deeply integrated into core enterprise workloads. From development to operations and real-time decision-making, the sessions collectively show how organizations can modernize without compromising the robustness of their existing systems.

A key highlight is the presence of top-tier speakers with direct influence on IBM Z innovation. Gary Mazo (IBM Silicon Valley Lab) shares how agentic AI is transforming z/OS development through tools like BOB Premium for z, bringing conversational and context-aware intelligence to traditional languages such as COBOL and PL/I.

Khadija Souissi provides deep technical insight into embedding AI directly into transaction flows, leveraging cutting-edge hardware innovations like Telum II and Spyre accelerators.

Complementing this, Marc De Groote delivers a practitioner’s perspective on applying AI-driven observability and automation in real-world mainframe environments.

The agenda is built around three high-impact themes:

Agentic AI for Development

Redefining how developers interact with and understand complex legacy systems through intelligent assistants

Transactional AI at Scale

Embedding AI inference directly into high-volume, mission-critical workloads on IBM Z

AI-Driven Observability & Automation

Evolving operations toward predictive, self-healing, and autonomous systems

Beyond technology, the conference also emphasizes community and collaboration through the GSE BeLux session, inviting participants to shape the next generation of workgroups focused on AI, hybrid cloud, and resilience.

Overall, this event positions the mainframe not as a legacy constraint, but as a strategic AI platform—capable of running intelligent workloads where data already resides, reducing latency, improving security, and unlocking immediate business value.

“Transactional AI on IBM Z”

Speaker:

Khadija Souissi

*Principal Solution Architect -
AI on IBM Z and LinuxONE,
Distinguished Technical Specialist*

Discover how AI can be embedded directly into live transaction processing on IBM Z, enabling real-time, intelligent decision-making at scale.

This session showcases how to leverage on-chip AI acceleration with Telum II and Spyre Accelerator to bring AI into the heart of z/OS transactions—unlocking faster insights and immediate business value.

 13.15 - 14.15h

See how organizations can:

- Apply AI inference inline with transaction processing
- Reduce risk, increase revenue, and lower operational costs
- Explore sector-specific, high-impact use cases
- Identify and prioritize the right AI opportunities

Whether you're starting with AI or expanding existing capabilities, this session shows how transactional AI on IBM Z can transform how you run and optimize critical workloads.

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“AI-Driven Observability and Automation”

Speakers:

Mustapha Gulkara

IBM, Brand Technical Specialist - IBM Z, Nederland

Kristof Stroobants

IBM IT Specialist (and bit of IT Architect & IT Consultant all-rounder), Belgium

Marc De Groote

Managing Partner Asist, Belgium

This session will explore Observability and how IBM is advancing the field with a unified, AI-driven approach. Attendees will discover how end-to-end visibility across applications, infrastructure, and business processes can be achieved using solutions such as IBM Instana Observability and IBM Turbonomic.

In addition, Asist will present its managed service offering for Observability, enabling clients to benefit from these capabilities without the need to acquire or manage the underlying technology themselves—providing a fully operated, scalable solution focused on performance, resilience, and business outcomes.

Learn how organizations can leverage AI to move beyond traditional monitoring toward proactive, self-healing systems that detect anomalies, identify root causes, and trigger automated responses in real time.

Key takeaways include:

- Gaining end-to-end visibility across complex environments
- Detecting and resolving issues proactively using AI-driven insights
- Automating operational workflows to reduce manual intervention
- Improving system resilience while lowering operational costs

Discover how combining observability with automation enables smarter operations, faster incident response, and continuous optimization of mission-critical workloads.

2

“Agentic AI for z/OS Development”

Speaker:

Flemming Petersen

Technical Sales Professional IBM Z Software. Copenhagen, Denmark. In charge of helping customers modernize IBM Z applications, tools and enterprise development practices

Explore how agentic AI is reshaping z/OS development by acting as an intelligent companion that understands both mainframe code and business logic.

This session features BOB Premium for z, showcasing how AI agents go beyond traditional analysis tools to deliver contextual, conversational, and action-driven assistance across COBOL, PL/I, JCL, CICS, DB2, MQ and more.

See how developers can:

- Generate meaningful code documentation instantly
- Perform accurate impact analysis for changes
- Receive AI-powered code review recommendations

Discover how BOB Premium for z enables faster development, reduced risk, and deeper insight into complex legacy systems.

3

“GSE BeLux Workgroups 2.0 Your Community, Your Input”

Speaker:

René De Vleeschauwer

Managing Partner IKAN Development, Belgium

As IBM Z and IBM LinuxONE evolve into platforms for AI, hybrid cloud, and secure computing, GSE BeLux must evolve with them.

In this short interactive session, we introduce a new direction for workgroups

We will:

- Share a simple proposal for new workgroup themes
- Ask for your priorities and ideas
- Invite you to get involved and co-lead

This session will introduce the next direction for GSE BeLux workgroups and invite you to actively shape, contribute to, and lead the communities that matter most to your work.

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